

March 31, 1981

Memo to Coal File:

#7  
RE: Bear Creek Canyon Portal  
ACT/015/025  
Emery County, Utah

The Bear Creek Canyon portal area was given a partial inspection on March 26, 1981, by Tom Portle and Joe Helfrich. State employees were accompanied by Dennis White, surface facility supervisor for the Bear Creek Canyon and Trail Canyon mining operations. The purpose of the inspection was in response to a phone conversation between Joe Helfrich and Dennis White. Mr. White had requested that a member from the Division inspect the Bear Creek Canyon portal area to determine the status of the stipulations agreed upon by Co-op Mining Company on March 12, 1980. The status of the six stipulations is as follows:

1. Mining will not occur within 100 feet on either side of the two major normal faults that cross the property, trending north, south.

Status: No mining has occurred at this point in time.

2. Culverts shall be placed in accordance with the proposed Permanent Program requirements. A copy of the applicable requirements are enclosed for your reference. Any section of the road that is used for coal haulage shall be designed, constructed and maintained as a Class I road. All other sections of road shall be designed, constructed and maintained as Class II road.

Status: Construction of the Class I road leading from the Huntington Canyon highway to the coal loadout pad, has not been completed. Class II road status: the road leading from the lower pad to the portal area has been partially completed, consisting of the installation of six culverts that have been rippapped with the implementation of down spouts and trash racks placed on the upper ends of the culverts. The lower half of the road between the portal area and the pad area has been properly graded with a berm on the outside and a diversion ditch on the inside. The upper half of the road leading from the lower pad to the portal area is still in need of berm work, diversion ditch work and final grading. The Class II road leading from the portal to the pad area has not been completed at this time.

3. The proposed road crossing of Bear Creek shall utilize culverts that will pass at a minimum 130 cu ft/sec with headwater no higher than the culvert intake. This requires either one 60 in culvert, two 48 in culverts or three 42 in culverts. A 60 in culvert has been placed in the road crossing of Bear Creek. The wash adjacent to the sediment pond that was filled in must have a culvert placed in it. A culvert capable of passing at a minimum of 3 cu ft/sec as required. An 18 in culvert is adequate.

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Status: The 60 in culvert located at the road crossing of Bear Creek has been properly riprapped. There is no trash rack located upstream of the inlet. The 18 in culvert was riprapped at the lower end. The upper end has not been riprapped nor trash racks implemented at this time.

4. On the disturbed area at the face-up, it shall be graded so as to drain runoff occurring from the disturbed area only into the underground workings. Runoff from the undisturbed area shall be diverted from the pad by use of revegetated berms and other appropriate diversion structures.


Status: The disturbed area at the face-up needs to be bermed. Mine water discharge from the existing portal needs to be diverted so as to minimize the effects of erosion on the existing downslopes.

5. Proposed fuel storage facility as shown on the map received December 19, 1979, shall be bermed such that if a spill occurred, complete containment of the fuel capacity is possible.

Status: Co-op Mining Company has recently purchased a fuel storage tank, capacity approximately 2,000 gallons. This will be placed underground at the lower pad area. Until this work is completed, an area should be designated for fuel storage with a berm around the area large enough to contain the volume of any spill that would occur.

In addition to the above stipulations, that must be agreed upon prior to issuing tentative approval, the Division must resolve a protest submitted by the Castle Valley Special Service District.

Status: The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining has not been contacted by either Mr. Owen or the Castle Valley Special Service District concerning the outcome of the protest.



JOSEPH C. HELFRICH  
RECLAMATION SOILS SPECIALIST

cc: Tom Ehmett, OSM

JCH/btm

Statistics:

See C.V. Spur memo dated March 31, 1981.